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IDENTICAL LETTERS DATED 19 JANUARY 2000 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that violations of Iraq's airspace by United States and British aircraft based in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey continued between 9 and 16 January 2000 and that the aircraft in question engaged in acts of aggression, reconnaissance activities and acts of provocation, as set forth in the annex hereto.

You are requested to intervene with the United States, the United Kingdom and the countries that provide the facilities for these acts of aggression, namely Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey, with a view to bringing a halt to actions that, as flagrant violations of the Charter of the United Nations and of international law, pose a threat to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Iraq.

These actions are continuing to bring death and injury to hundreds of civilians and to cause serious damage to private and public property. The logistic support that Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey provide to the United States and British forces makes them key partners in the aggression being committed against Iraq, so that they share international responsibility for the consequences of these actions. The Government of the Republic of Iraq affirms its right to seek lawful compensation for the damage being inflicted on its people by these same actions.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Saeed H. HASAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Violations by United States and British aircraft and damage caused, 9-16 January 2000

1. In the northern region 74 sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 12,000 metres, as follows:

(a) At 1045 hours on 11 January 2000 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 14 missions from Turkish territory, were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Mosul, Irbil, Sinjar, Zakho, Aqrah, Tall Afar, Baibo and Amadiyah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1325 hours, drove them off.

(b) At 1100 hours on 12 January 2000 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 14 missions from Turkish territory, were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Tall Afar, Zakho, Amadiyah, Baibo, Aqrah, Ayn Zalah and Sinjar areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1435 hours, drove them off.

(c) At 1215 hours on 13 January 2000 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 14 missions from Turkish territory, were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Mosul, Dohuk, Tall Afar, Irbil, Ayn Zalah, Amadiyah and Zakho areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1510 hours, drove them off.

(d) At 1130 hours on 14 January 2000 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 18 missions from Turkish territory, were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Amadiyah, Zakho, Aqrah, Mosul, Tall Afar, Sinjar and Dohuk areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1355 hours, drove them off.

(e) At 1120 hours on 16 January 2000 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 14 missions from Turkish territory, were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Amadiyah, Zakho, Aqrah, Mosul and Tall Afar areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1350 hours, drove them off.

2. In the southern region 143 sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 9,000 to 13,000 metres, as follows:

(a) At 1150 hours on 9 January 2000 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 30 missions, eight of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and 22 from Kuwaiti territory with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Salman, Basrah, Busayyah, Artawi, Jalibah, Qurnah, Amarah, Nasiriyah, Rifa'i, Ali al-Gharbi, Shatrah, Kut, Qal'at Sukkar, Shinafiyah and Diwaniyah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1340 hours, drove them off.

(b) At 1015 hours on 10 January 2000 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 56 missions, 26 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and 30 from Kuwaiti territory with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Lasaf, Nasiriyah, Basrah, Najaf, Hayy, Amarah, Razzazah South, Jalibah, Artawi and Nu'maniyah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1302 hours, drove them off.

(c) At 1030 hours on 11 January 2000 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, F-18, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 28 missions, 12 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and 16 from Kuwaiti territory with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Artawi, Ushbayjah, Lasaf, Basrah, Qurnah, Samawah, Amarah, Qal'at Salih, Nasiriyah, Diwaniyah and Taqtaqanah West areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1140 hours, drove them off.

(d) At 0725 hours on 13 January 2000 United States and British F-15 aircraft coming from Saudi territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out seven missions from Saudi territory, were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and overflew the Lasaf, Taqtaqanah and Ushbayjah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 0815 hours, drove them off.

(e) At 0735 hours on 14 January 2000 United States and British F-15 aircraft coming from Saudi territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out eight missions from Saudi territory, were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and overflew the Lasaf and Ushbayjah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 0845 hours, drove them off.

(f) At 0700 hours on 16 January 2000 United States and British F-15 aircraft coming from Saudi territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 14 missions from Saudi territory, were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and overflew the Lasaf, Ushbayjah, Najaf and Salman areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 0845 hours, drove them off.

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LETTER DATED 20 JANUARY 2000 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to convey the attached communication, dated 19 January 2000, which I have received from the Secretary-General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would bring it to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(Signed) Kofi A. ANNAN

Annex

Letter dated 19 January 2000 from the Secretary-General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) addressed to the Secretary-General

In accordance with Security Council resolution 1088 (1996), I attach the monthly report on the operations of the Stabilization Force. I would appreciate your making this report available to the Council.

(Signed) George ROBERTSON

Enclosure

Monthly report to the Security Council on the operations of the Stabilization Force

1. Over the reporting period (13 November-12 December 1999), there were approximately 27,000 troops deployed in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia with contributions from all North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) allies and from 15 non-NATO countries. Stabilization Force (SFOR) troops continued to conduct surveillance and reconnaissance by means of ground and air patrols, and operations across the SFOR area included area security, monitoring the border with the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, monitoring the entity armed forces, conducting weapons storage site inspections and providing support to the international organizations in theatre. Over the period, combat aircraft flew for approximately 100 hours.

2. SFOR troops continued to monitor compliance with the provisions of Security Council resolution 1160 (1998), prohibiting the transport of weapons into the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, with an intensified presence on the ground in order to enforce the embargo. No violations were reported.

3. SFOR continued to monitor the movement of controlled petroleum products into the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia by establishing traffic control points. No violations were reported.

4. Following requests by both the High Representative and the Independent Media Commission (IMC) on 25 November, SFOR conducted inspections of commercial broadcasting sites in Bosnia and Herzegovina in order to ensure that information was being broadcast according to the agreed media code. SFOR's inspections, which were conducted in accordance with annex 10 of the Peace Agreement, were deemed necessary because of continued illegal broadcasting by the Croatian television station Erotel, despite a broadcasting ban imposed by IMC on 16 November.

5. At the end of November, the Office of the High Representative (OHR) and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) removed 22 Bosnian officials from their posts because of their persistent obstruction of the Peace Agreement. SFOR troops were put on increased alert to ensure the necessary security for the international organizations concerned. No violent incidents were reported.

6. On 6 December 1999, SFOR troops provided security to the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia during its confiscation of weapons from warehouses belonging to the 3rd and 5th Bosnian Serb Army Corps near Zvornik, as part of its investigation into war crimes committed after the occupation of Srebrenica in 1995.

Cooperation and compliance by the Parties

7. Over the reporting period, the situation in the theatre remained stable, with the entities in substantial compliance with the military provisions of the

Peace Agreement. The demonstration in Multinational Division (MND) (South-East), which had been reported last month, continued throughout the reporting period, with Bosniac farmers from Gorazde demonstrating for their right to work their land in Kopaci, in the Republika Srpska. The number of demonstrators varied between 5 and 50. SFOR troops and Multinational Specialized Units monitored the situation. No violence was reported.

8. There were two freedom-of-movement violations over the reporting period, both in MND (North). In the first, on 15 November, demonstrators, mostly women, blocked a road near the town of Vozuca in protest at power cuts. The United Nations International Police Task Force (IPTF) and local police monitored the situation and established a bypass that restored freedom of movement. In the second such incident, on 17 November, approximately 250 people blocked a road near Brcko in protest at an unannounced tax rise on imported goods. There was no violence, and the protest ended the same day.

9. Over the reporting period, SFOR troops conducted a total of 250 military weapons storage site inspections: 60 Bosniac; 35 Bosnian Croat; 122 Bosnian Serb; and 33 Federation. No major instances of non-compliance were reported.

10. SFOR troops monitored 628 training and movement activities: 297 Bosniac; 91 Bosnian Croat; 209 Bosnian Serb; and 31 Federation. The training and movement ban on the Republika Srpska Police Anti-Terrorist Brigade remains in effect until further notice, as does the ban imposed on elements of the 3rd Bosnian Serb Army Corps on 27 February 1999 as a result of their involvement in the illegal transfer of weapons. The ban imposed on the 1st Bosnian Serb Army Corps (reported last month) was lifted on 30 November 1999.

11. Over the reporting period, 10 demining teams conducted 94 mine-clearing operations, removing 15 anti-personnel mines and 5 items of unexploded ordnance from 9,935 square metres of land. The Bosnian Serb Army's mine-destruction programme was completed by the deadline of 15 November, when the last remaining complete mines were destroyed.

Cooperation with international organizations

12. Within capabilities, and in accordance with its mandate, SFOR continues to provide assistance to the international organizations in theatre, including the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (UNMIBH), IPTF, the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, OHR, OSCE and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

13. SFOR continues to play an active role in supporting OHR's efforts to establish joint institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina, particularly the Standing Committee on Military Matters (SCMM). At the SCMM meeting of 8 December, final plans were announced for achieving the 15 per cent defence reductions by the end of 1999. The weapons held by the 30 battalions to be disbanded will be stored centrally and subjected to joint monitoring and inspection by SFOR and the entity armed forces. A working group composed of representatives from SFOR, OSCE and the entity armed forces was established to verify that the 15 per cent reductions take place and to agree detailed plans for the storage of the weapons. The working group will also initiate work on a

further round of defence reductions for 2000. As far as the development of a common security policy is concerned, a "road map" outlining the way forward was agreed at the 8 December meeting, but final release of the document is pending.

Outlook

14. Isolated incidents of violence and intimidation are likely to continue in response to the return of refugees and displaced persons.

15. In line with the North Atlantic Council's October decision, the Stabilization Force Commander (COMSFOR) has begun to implement the SFOR restructuring plan, which calls for a gradual reduction in the size, role and profile of the force. Military presence will be provided in critical areas, as well as in identified and emerging hot spots, and focused military support will also be provided in areas deemed critical to civil implementation. SFOR restructuring will be accomplished in spring 2000.

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LETTER DATED 24 JANUARY 2000 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF NIGERIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit herewith a goodwill message from the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Chief Olusegun Obasanjo, on the occasion of the open meeting of the Security Council on the Democratic Republic of the Congo (see annex). I would appreciate it if this message could be formally conveyed to members of the Security Council and the participants in the open meeting and also be issued as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Olusegun APATA
Ambassador of the Democratic
Republic of the Congo

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Annex

Letter dated 24 January 2000 from the President of Nigeria addressed to the President of the Security Council

Goodwill message on the occasion of the open meeting of the Security Council on the Democratic Republic of the Congo

On behalf of the Government and the people of Nigeria, I congratulate you on the assumption of the Presidency of the Security Council during the first month of the new millennium and for the high profile and attention you have given to African issues in our Organization. To this end, I am delighted to send this message of goodwill to the members of the Council and the participants in this historic open meeting on the Democratic Republic of the Congo, including my brother Heads of State who have travelled all the way from our continent, for a very successful deliberation. Their presence demonstrates the commitment which the Organization of African Unity and all African leaders have towards the peaceful resolution of the conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

It is gratifying that the Security Council, under the Presidency of the United States of America, at the very beginning of the new millennium, is devoting a substantial part of its programme of work and its time to the issues of peace and security in Africa. It is appropriate and fitting that the United Nations is taking an early lead in the new millennium in focusing on issues of peace and security on the African continent.

The impressive turnout of a large number of African leaders in the Security Council today to participate in the efforts to resolve the conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo is a solid show of the commitment of Africa and its leaders to truly turn 2000 into a year of peace, security and solidarity. Certainly, their presence should convince the international community that we are committed to ending conflicts afflicting some States on our continent.

The early resolution of the conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo will certainly have a positive effect on the security of the entire subregion and give substance to the decision of African leaders at their 1999 Algiers Summit to make 2000 truly the year of peace, security and solidarity. It is important, therefore, that all efforts be made at this meeting to reaffirm the collective commitment of all parties to the Lusaka Agreement. The United Nations should also give concrete support to complement the regional and continental arrangement aimed at peacemaking and peacekeeping in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

(Signed) Olusegun OBASANJO
President of the Federal
Republic of Nigeria